

20 **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

21 **This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the**  
22 **application:**

23 **LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

24 **WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

25 (original): 1. A method of producing hollow alumina particles  
26 comprising the steps of: generating micro-liquid droplets in an  
27 atomized state from an aqueous solution containing one of  
28 aluminum nitrate and aluminum acetate and one of a surfactant and  
29 an organic acid by irradiating supersonic waves; selecting the  
30 generated micro-liquid droplets having a predetermined grain  
31 sized or less by air stream introducing the generated micro-  
32 liquid droplets into the furnace; and burning the generated  
33 micro-liquid in air.

34 (original): 2. A method of producing hollow alumina particles  
35 according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of aluminum  
36 nitrate or aluminum acetate is from 0.1 to 1.0 M.

1 (currently amended): 3. A method of producing hollow alumina  
2 particles according to ~~any one of~~ claim 1 ~~to 2~~, wherein one of  
3 0.0005 to 0.05 mol of the surfactant and 0.03 to 0.5 mol of the  
4 organic acid is added to one mol of one of aluminum nitrate and

5 aluminum acetate.

1 (currently amended): 4. A method of producing hollow alumina  
2 | particles according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1 ~~to~~ 3, wherein the  
3 organic acid corresponds to one of citric acid, amino acid and  
4 maleic acid.

1 (currently amended): 5. A method of producing hollow alumina  
2 | particles according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1 ~~to~~ 4, wherein the  
3 surfactant corresponds to an olefinic polymer having a weight  
4 average molecular weight of from 2,500 to 6.

5 (currently amended): 6. A method of producing hollow alumina  
6 | particles according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1 ~~to~~ 5, wherein the  
7 resultant hollow alumina particles are further re-burned.